



John Robert Michael

January 17, 1943 - August 21, 2021

John Robert Michael, age 78 of Rensselaer, Indiana, passed away Saturday, August 21, 2021 at the Franciscan Hospice House in Indianapolis. John was born in Rensselaer, Indiana on January 17, 1943, the son of the late John Milton and Emma Mae (Lowman) Michael.

John was a lifetime resident of Rensselaer and on December 26, 1964 in Rensselaer, he married Sally Louise Hasty, who preceded him in death on July 2, 2020. He graduated from Rensselaer Central High School, the Class of 1961. He continued his education and graduated from St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, attended Purdue University and received his Master's Degree from Butler University. John, then led a successful career as a teacher and guidance counselor to countless students from Rensselaer Central, North Newton, Kankakee Valley and West Central School Corporations. His career spanned for over 38 years.

John was a member of the St. Augustine Catholic Church. After retirement, he and Sally made a second home in Winter Haven, FL, where they continued to make many friends and shared their home with their children and grandchildren, when they came to visit. Family was always their core responsibility and they cherished spending holidays, vacation and time with all their loved ones.

John is survived by two sons, John Jeffery (Cheryl) Michael of Indianapolis, Indiana and Gregory James (Katie) Michael of Rensselaer, Indiana; seven grandchildren, Sarah Lorraine, Madelyn Louise, Emma Jean, Sophie, Jimi, John and Rowan Michael; two sisters, Gayla Lee (Chuck) Tilton and Marcy Ann (Bill) Busse.

He was preceded in death by his parents and wife, Sally Michael.

There will be a private, family memorial service. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Jasper Newton Foundation in memory of John Michael.

Tribute Wall

NO

“ remember so well when was told by him i wasn't worth college and to get a job wherever i could

none - September 05, 2025 at 11:16 AM

CH

“ Both of your parents were such joyful people and the world is a better place because of them! You have my deepest sympathy.
Cathy (Nagel) Hanna

Cathy Hanna - August 27, 2021 at 06:05 PM

MK

“ Mike & Janett Kingman lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael



Mike & Janett Kingman - August 26, 2021 at 08:07 PM

SE

“ Susan Rishling Emetti lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael



Susan Rishling Emetti - August 26, 2021 at 09:12 AM

DF

“ We have known John and Sally for many years here in the Rensselaer community. John was always very quick of wit. With our deepest sympathy.
Peter and Diane Fish

Diane Fish - August 25, 2021 at 07:42 PM

LY

“ John was a high school classmate. He was always fun to be with and had a beautiful smile. I knew Sally too and they made a beautiful couple. I remember reading an article in the paper about the camp they held for their grandchildren in the summer. My husband and I thought that was such a great idea that we started that tradition with our three youngest granddaughters.
We send our sympathy to John and Sally's family. You were blessed to have them and we were blessed to know them. Sincerely, Lynn and Warren Whaley

Lynn - August 24, 2021 at 07:15 PM

GP

“ John taught in the old Middle School with me and rode to work with George when the two were employed at the Kankakee Valley school corporation. Many good moments were shared with John and he always had a smile on his face. A very easy going man! He will be greatly missed by so many. Our sincere condolences to the family!

George and Bernice Post

George and Bernice Post - August 24, 2021 at 02:51 PM

PL

“ *Phyllis Lanoue lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Phyllis Lanoue - August 24, 2021 at 02:49 PM

LP

“ *Lib (Goad) Prohosky lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Lib (Goad) Prohosky - August 24, 2021 at 12:07 PM

ED

“ *John was a good guy who made a difference in a lot of young people's lives, mine included.
He will be missed by many.
My condolences to the Michael family.*

Ed Davisson - August 24, 2021 at 10:24 AM

AV

“ *Sending prayers to the family.*



Amy Valade - August 23, 2021 at 07:48 PM



“ Sharon Davisson lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael



Sharon Davisson - August 23, 2021 at 07:37 PM



"Let us be grateful to the people who made us happy. They are the charming gardeners who made our souls blossom." M Proust.. Hugs full of "Blessings"! Sharon Davisson

Sharon Davisson - August 23, 2021 at 08:02 PM

DB

“ Deric And Mindy Beier lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael



Deric and Mindy Beier - August 23, 2021 at 01:52 PM

CC

“ John and Sally were such beautiful people, for those of us who were blessed by knowing them, we have only sweet memories. We pray our thoughts and prayers will give you comfort. Sincerely, the Childs family. Tim, Tom, Carol, Susie and Pat

Carol A. Childs - August 23, 2021 at 01:01 PM

KE

“ Prayers to the family. John was a special man and his life was a walking testimonial. Mike and Karla sending special hugs to you Marcy.



Karla and Mike Eshleman - August 23, 2021 at 12:58 PM

PW

“ Our family was fortunate enough to grow up living close to the Michael's that we were at their house as much as at our own. We always felt like they were a second set of parents. I can't imagine how many kids John helped influence being a teacher and guidance counselor in all of those communities. He will be missed.

Paul Wing - August 23, 2021 at 12:40 PM

AN

“ Angiesleeman@yahoo.com lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael



angiesleeman@yahoo.com - August 23, 2021 at 12:16 PM

JP

“ Jeff & Kris Phillips lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael



Jeff & Kris Phillips - August 23, 2021 at 10:38 AM

KS

“ *Very kind and truthful as our middle school counselor. He was obviously loving about his wife and kids. In my mind's eye, I still see him just outside his little office in the building that is now gone. God bless his legacy in his family and our hometown.*

Karen Shelley - August 23, 2021 at 10:29 AM

FP

“ *Like so many in the community, John and Sally touch our lives in so many ways. Always with a smile and kind word. He will be genuinely missed as gentleman and teacher. Blessings to the family and loved ones.*

Fred and Charlene Plant

fred plant - August 23, 2021 at 10:05 AM

RS

“ *Wonderful people and good friends, they made Rensselaer a better place to live! May God comfort you in your loss and give you many precious memories. Roger & Vicki Steffen*

Roger & Vicki Steffen - August 23, 2021 at 09:05 AM

DG

“ *George and I are so sorry for your loss.* 🙏💕



Deb & George - August 23, 2021 at 08:40 AM

MB

“ *Myles Beeching lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Myles Beeching - August 23, 2021 at 08:15 AM

JR

“ *John was an awesome counselor at KVHS. I am proud to have worked with such a devoted man.*



Judy Roberts - August 23, 2021 at 07:15 AM

CA

“ *Cindy Lane Aubuchon lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Cindy Lane Aubuchon - August 23, 2021 at 05:20 AM

JS

“ *John always had a big smile on his face when you met him. I loved to see him and Sally walking hand in hand by my office window on Saturday mornings. My deepest sympathy to the family.*

judy smith - August 22, 2021 at 11:20 PM

LA

“ *Mr Michael & Sally we're some of the nicest people & he was such a fun teacher & counselor! Thoughts & prayers Jeff & Greg!*

Lori Aichner - August 22, 2021 at 10:52 PM

RS

“ *Great man. Great family. He impacted so many lives in a positive way. And opened his home to so many of us as kids and friends of Greg and Jeff. He will be missed - but the memories and kindness and joy for life he and Sally modeled will continue on in those they touched.*

Rick Stefanich - August 22, 2021 at 09:34 PM

DS

“ *What a great man!!*



Donna Sullivan - August 22, 2021 at 08:56 PM

DS

“ *What a great man!!*



Donna Sullivan - August 22, 2021 at 08:55 PM

NK

“ *What a kind and gentle soul. You will be missed John.*



namcy Klockow - August 22, 2021 at 07:53 PM

GW

“ *Glen And Linda Wood lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Glen and Linda Wood - August 22, 2021 at 07:33 PM

AH

“ *Mr Michael was such a kind and respectable man. He will be missed by many. May God bless the family with peace and comfort.*

Angie Holt - August 22, 2021 at 07:21 PM

DW

“ *Don And Gloria Waymouth lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Don and Gloria Waymouth - August 22, 2021 at 06:41 PM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Judy Burvan - August 22, 2021 at 06:39 PM

JB

John and Sally were a beautiful couple with huge hearts which they shared graciously with the Rensselaer community. They will definitely be missed. 😭

Judy Burvan - August 22, 2021 at 06:44 PM

JA

John and Sally were such a big part of my childhood - and, fortunately, many people can say that. Their home was always full of music and laughter. They both were gifted at connecting with young people and making them feel important. John always had kind word and gentle smile whenever you encountered him in the community. Sally and John were a formidable couple in that they made Rensselaer a better place to live. They were a wonderful example to so many. Rest in peace, my friend!

James Ahler - August 22, 2021 at 10:15 PM

BF

“ *John and Sally were good friends and later such good neighbors. Such great people, they will be so missed by all.*

Bethel Ford - August 22, 2021 at 06:27 PM

JO

“ *Janice Odom lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Janice Odom - August 22, 2021 at 06:16 PM

JJ

“ *Mr Michels was there for my kids when they lost their father. He was an amazing Consoler my kids thought highly of him*

judith justice - August 22, 2021 at 05:56 PM

JS

“ *Judy Siegrist lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Judy Siegrist - August 22, 2021 at 05:09 PM

GK

“ *Greg Kaufman lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Greg kaufman - August 22, 2021 at 04:50 PM



“ *Nancy Hall lit a candle in memory of John Robert Michael*



Nancy Hall - August 22, 2021 at 04:46 PM